

Approved

Downtown Providence District Management Authority

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2014

1. Roll Call

Chairman Richard Lappin called the meeting to order at 8:35

Directors present: Bert Crenca, Bob Gagliardi, Richard Lappin, John Rupp, Evan Granoff and Susan Lapidus

Ex Officio Members present: Lt. Tim O'Hara, Major Tom Verdi, Lisa Paratore

Guests: Nate Urso, Providence DPW

Others present: Dan Baudouin, Executive Director of The Providence Foundation; Joelle Kanter, The Providence Foundation Program Manager; Frank LaTorre, Director of Public Space, Alison Izzi, DID Accounting Manager and Frank Zammarelli, Block by Block Operations Manager.

2. Approval of the minutes from the August 18th meeting

Director John Rupp motioned to approve the minutes from the August 18th 2014 Board Meeting. Director Bob Gagliardi seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held as follows:

Director Crenca Yes

Director Gagliardi Yes

Director Lappin

Director Granoff

Director Lapidus Yes

Yes

Yes

Director Rupp Yes

Therefore the motion passed.

3. Infrastructure Update

Nate Urso, engineer with the Providence Department of Public Works, reported on the \$40 million bond, referred to as Contract 9 that will be

used to fund road paving in Downtown, the jewelry district and Mt. Hope sections of Providence. Mr. Urso stated that they plan to start work in the spring of 2015, except for Union and Chapel Streets which they plan to pave this year. They currently have a full construction season to finish. There is some paving work currently happening in the Mt. Hope area. In the downtown area, streets that do not abut other projects will be completed first. Nate will share the complete listing of the streets that are included in the project with with Frank LaTorre.

Nate left the meeting at 8:45

4. Report from the Nominating Committee – Nomination and Election of Officers

a) The Nominating Committee recommended that the term limits be increased from 3 year to 4 year term limits.

Director Bert Crenca motioned to increase the term limits of Board Members and Officers from 3 year terms to 4 year terms. Director Bob Gagliardi seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held as

follows:

Director Crenca Yes

Director Gagliardi Yes

Director Lappin

Director Lapidus

Director Granoff Yes

Yes

Yes

Director Rupp Yes

Therefore the motion passed.

b) The Nominating Committee presented the following recommendations for officers, Chair – Richard Lappin, Vice Chair – Bert Crenca, Treasurer - John Rupp and Secretary – Joe DiBattista

Director Bob Gagliardi motioned to accept the new slate of officers as presented by the Nominating Committee. Director Susan Lapidus seconded the motion and a roll call vote was held as follows:

Director Crenca Yes

Director Gagliardi Yes

Director Lappin

Director Lapidus

Director Granoff Yes

Yes

Yes

Director Rupp Yes

Therefore the motion passed

5. City of Providence Update

Lt. O'Hara reported the new recruit class will graduate next month

and start a 14 week training program. Once they complete the program and get on the street they will help alleviate some of the manpower issues the department currently faces. He reported an increase in the amount of homeless in the district particularly around City Hall, Burnside Park, the Arcade, ATM's along Westminster Street and Cathedral Park. He feels a long term plan with social services, shelters and the RI Homeless Coalition is necessary. Lt. O'Hara reported that Lupo's is hosting the "I Love College" event again this year. It is scheduled for Friday September 19th. Lt. O'Hara testified against this event at the License board hearing. Planning is underway for the event including rescue, extra detail, downtown detail and road closure.

6. Report from the Director of Public Space – Nighttime Economy "Under 21" Clubs

Frank LaTorre presented an overview, recent history and the pros and cons of "Under 21" night clubs.

(See Attached). In his report Frank spoke about the definition of what an N-license is, that there are 12 N-licenses with the capacity of 5,250

in the DID and that violence in the clubs peaked in 2011-12. There has been a drop in incidents over the past two years in part due to the bills the HRP got passed in the State Legislature, local ordinances passed and the work of Councilor Seth Yurdin and the Ordinance Committee of the Providence City Council. There is a new tone at the Board of Licenses under the new Chair, with much stiffer penalties when violations occur including revocations, suspension and stiff fines when warranted. Bottle service is no longer allowed in the VIP sections. Frank spoke about how Providence is the only city in New England that regularly allows patrons under 21 into a nightclub and how Boston recently changed its policy in 2007. The pros and cons of banning under 21 year olds were then discussed in detail and will be discussed further at a subsequent DID Board meeting.

7. Financial Report

Alison Izzi reported on the July & August 2014 financial statements. July is the first month of the new fiscal year 2015 and 1st quarter revenue in the amount of \$307,831 posted July 1st. There is a liability on the Statement of Financial Position for “Unearned Revenue” for quarters 2, 3 & 4. On the August Statement of Operations there is a new line item under Special Projects called “RIPTA Overtime.” This will track the additional overtime needed for the RIPTA relocation project. Collections are at 93% for the 1st quarter of 2015. LGC & D will present the audit report at the October 16th meeting.

Director Evan Granoff motioned to accept the July & August financial

statements, Director John Rupp seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was held as follows:

Director Crenca

Director Granoff Yes

Yes

Director Gagliardi

Director LaPidus Yes

Yes

Director Lappin Yes

Director Rupp Yes

Therefore the motion passed.

8. Marketing Report

Joelle Kanter reported that downtown maps & guides have been printed and 15,000 copies have been distributed to colleges, hotels and local businesses. The 2014 version is larger and features new

maps that highlight shopping and cultural destinations. Joelle reported on the signage project. She has conducted site visits to all the proposed sign locations with Chris Ise from the Planning Department and Pedro Pechardo from the DPW. Joelle is finalizing the bidding package which should be ready to be sent out to fabricators in the next few weeks. The collateral materials for the Bring Your Company to Life campaign are being distributed at upcoming conferences and events, including the Business Innovation Factory Summit, Design Week RI, and the regional American Institute of Architects conference. Joelle reported that as part of Design Week, the DID is organizing a downtown walking tour in partnership with the RI Historical Society on Tuesday September 23rd. Friday, September 19th is PARK(ing) Day, and several on-street parking spaces will be converted into park-lets. The DID is hosting a meet & greet with the Arcade tenants on October 7th.

9. Block by Block Report

Frank Zammarelli report that the bike racks have been installed, 90% of the hanging baskets have been trimmed. Tim Hamlin, the new safety team leader will start next month. Frank will be adding trees and shrubs to the gateway gardens. Frank reported that there has been a recent increase in aggressive panhandling arrests in the district.

10. Other Business

Dan Baudouin would like to schedule the DID/Providence Foundation/DPPC retreat the week before Thanksgiving. He is currently working on a 10th anniversary gala that will take place sometime in the spring of 2015. He is would like volunteers for the planning committee.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Izzi

Accounting Manager

Downtown Improvement District